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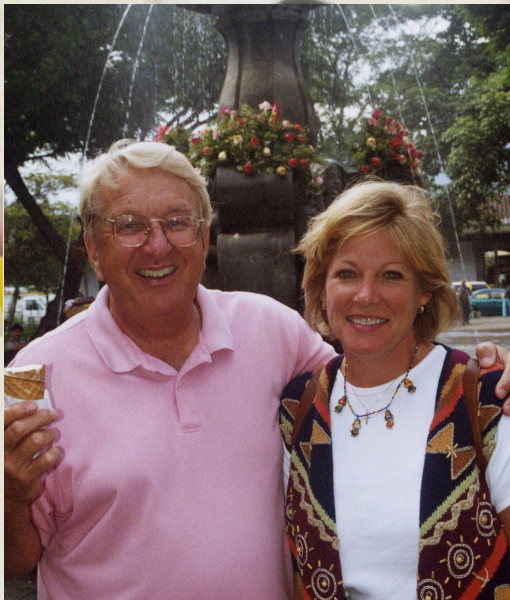
SAMARITAN WORLD

News for the friends of International Samaritan



Remembering Bill Pulte
(1932-2018)

Bill Pulte, servant to the poor



Bill Pulte was there from the very beginning of International Samaritan's mission; his generosity benefited thousands of children and families living in garbage dump poverty. After returning from Guatemala in 1994, Father Don Vettese, S.J. shared with Bill what he witnessed – the horrific conditions of the Guatemala City garbage dump.

Bill and Karen were invited to come and see the conditions of garbage dump poverty, and they made the first of many visits to the community. Moved beyond words, Bill opened his heart to International Samaritan's mission. As the biggest home builder in the United States, Bill instantly recognized the needs families had. They were living next to the trash dump in houses with dirt floors, no plumbing or toilet, walls made of cardboard and plastic, roofs made of corrugated metal with holes, electrical wires dangling from wooden branches, and rope holding each dwelling together. Bill was quickly motivated to help and he understood the value of a home for families to live in, so he generously provided homes to the people living in the garbage dump of Guatemala City. As a result, hundreds of cinder block homes were built in neighborhoods near the entrance of the Guatemala City garbage dump, improving living conditions and overall health for the community.



Hundreds of homes built by Bill and Karen in Guatemala

Since those first homes were built, Bill and Karen's support for International Samaritan has been unwavering. Bill and Karen served as founding board members since 1994. Karen and Bill have generously supported construction projects to build the Santa Clara Nursery, giving mothers who work in the dump a safe, clean facility for their infant to preschool-aged children to receive care and nutrition as well as a Montessori education. In addition, Karen and Bill have supported dozens of scholarships for deserving children living in garbage dump communities across Central America and the Precious Angel's Nursery in El Salvador. International Samaritan is forever grateful for Bill's friendship, support, and care for thousands of those living in garbage dump poverty.



Karen at Santa Clara Nursery in Guatemala



Karen and Bill at Precious Angel's Nursery in El Salvador

Our board members remember Bill...

"Bill was humble. He took his work seriously, but not himself. He was self-effacing, laughed easily, and lived his faith. God be with you, Bill; you will live on in the hearts and memories of the thousands of people you helped." - Father Don Vettese, Founder of I.S.

"Bill Pulte was an unassuming, approachable guy, and a lot of fun, too. Playing years ago in a charity golf tournament at my invitation, Karen and Bill played so well that our team won the event. Bill was a gracious and humble winner who went on to make a generous gift." - John and Joan Vatterott, Current Board Member

"It has been a privilege to serve on the International Samaritan Board with Bill Pulte. Bill brought his engaging personality along with an energetic, thoughtful and common sense approach to the work of the board, and his heartfelt commitment to International Samaritan and its mission will always be remembered and appreciated." - Joe Rideout, Current Board Member

"Bill was a brilliant man with simple tastes. He loved what he did, and for over two decades he gave more than funding to International Samaritan; he gave heart, wisdom, and work. He will be deeply missed." - Oscar Dussan, President of I.S.



Dear Friends,

Bill Pulte was a man of great faith, prayer, and trust in God...

When a great ship goes down, we want to point to where it was lost, what it looked like, its speed, routes, and passengers, and how it cut against the sky, sailing through bad storms and beautiful waters.

A great man, Bill Pulte, has gone down. Many will remember him as a successful business man, a master builder, and a billionaire who founded the largest home building company in the world.

We at International Samaritan appreciate the business success Bill achieved, but we also appreciate his generous service to our mission. His philanthropy was grounded in a deep, focused, profound faith that demonstrated a concrete love for the poor and took action in service to the poor. His wife, Karen, was also a founder and continues to actively serve on our board, working on board committees and making regular on-site trips to the many programs serving thousands of the poorest people in the world through housing, education, food programs, and nurseries.

Bill was much more than a founder and major donor—he was a genuine friend, often offering encouragement to our staff and others in the mission with kindly, wise advice not easily found in philanthropy.

Bill had a global vision rooted in his deep faith in Jesus Christ. He connected his vision and faith, joining with other philanthropists and leaders (including former President George W. Bush in Washington, D.C. for prayer breakfasts where they prayed together for world peace. Bill once told me: "...world peace will not come as a result of more bombs, more soldiers, more wars....We must pray for world peace because nothing will bring peace but God. We must pray every day that God grant the world peace."

In the end, Bill's greatest legacy was his profound faith in God, a faith he expressed by serving the poorest people in the poorest countries.

Bill prayed. He trusted God. He stayed the course in both smooth and turbulent waters, and served the poor with great generosity. May we always remember his goodness.

Yours in Christ,

Father Don Vettese, S. J.

Founder of International Samaritan



Bill & Karen Pulte Legacy Fund for Children

A founding member of International Samaritan, Bill Pulte did not hesitate to reach out to the poorest of the poor throughout the developing world. He and his wife, Karen, generously supported programs that gave food, shelter, safety, education, medical care, and hope to men, women, and children living in garbage dump squalor.

Though Bill is gone, your contribution to the Pulte Legacy Fund for Children will help continue the good work of Bill, Karen, and the Pulte Family for years to come.

Help us continue Bill's legacy by signing up on our giving envelope or by going to our website at intsam.org/donate. For further questions, contact us at 734-222-0701.

A PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

Dear God, Thank you for all creation. In the spirit of Jesus of Nazareth and all teachers of peace who inspire the many faith traditions, help me, and all the people of the world, learn how to replace hate, war, oppression and division with love, forgiveness, freedom, and reconciliation. Help me to embody your love in my relationships with my family and friends, strangers - even my enemies. I commit myself to this sacred task throughout my life. So let it be.



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